Were now the general of our gracious empress [9]
(As, in good time, he may,) from Ireland coming,
Bringing rebellion broached[x] on his sword,
How many would the peaceful city quit,
To welcome him ? much more, and much more cause,
Did they this Harry. Now in London place him ;
(As yet the lamentation of the French
Invites the king of England's stay at home :
The emperor's coming[2] in behalf of France,

and deep affection of the people towards him by reason of his bounty liberalise affabilitie and mild behaviour that as well schollars souldiers citizens saylers &c protestants papists sectaries and atheists yea women and children which never saw him that it was held in them a happiness to follow the worst of his fortunes " That such a man should have fallen a sacrifice to the caprice of a fantastick woman and the machinations of the detestable Cecil must ever be lamented His return from Ireland however was very different from what our poet predicted See a curious account of it in the Sydney Papers, vol. ii. p, 127.

MALONE.

9 — the general of our gracious empress —] The Earl of Essex, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

POPE.

Few noblemen of his age were more courted by poets From Spenser to the lowest rhymer he was the subject of numerous sonnets or popular ballads I will not except Sydney I could produce evidence to prove that he scarce ever went out of England or left London on the most frivolous enterprise without a pastoral in his praise or a panegyrick in metre which were sold or sung in the streets T WARTON

To such compliments as are here bestowed by our author on the earl of Essex Barnabie Riche in his Souldier's Wishe to Britons Welfare or Captain Skill and Captain Pill 1604 p 21 seems to allude · ** — not so much as a memorandum for the most honourable enterprizes how worthily 30 ever performed unless perhaps a little commendation in a ballad, *or if a man be favoured by a playmaker I may sometimes be canonized on a stage.*"

STEEVEN
S.

* Bringing rebellion BKOACHED •>—]
Spitted, transfixed.

JOHNSO
N.

[a] The emperor's coming—] The emperor Sigismond who was married to Henry's second cousin. If the text be right I suppose the meaning is—The emperor *is* coming &c. but I suspect some corruption for the Chorus speaks of the emperor's visit